

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 /024 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

S E C R E T MAPUTO 0433

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MZ, RH, US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO ZAMBIA: MEETING WITH AMERICAN AMBASSADORS

REF: LUSAKA 973

1. SCENARIO AS PROPOSED REFTEL, WHICH PROVIDES FOR SECRETARY TO MEET WITH U.S. AMBASSADORS PRETORIA, GABORONE AND MAPUTO IN LIVINGSTONE AND FOR THEM TO CONVEY MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO THEIR RESPECTIVE PRESIDENTS WOULD SERVE US WELL IN MAPUTO. WERE SECRETARY TO AGREE TO MAKE BRIEF STATEMENT AS PROPOSED PARA 4 REFTEL, IN WHICH HE REGRETS HIS INABILITY TO MEET WITH MACHEL AND KHAMA, AND EXPRESSES ADMIRATION FOR EFFORTS THEY MAKING TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA, WOULD LIKEWISE BE WELL-RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT MACHEL AND GPRM.

2. EMBASSY HAS RESERVATIONS ABOUT SUGGESTED CONTENT FOR SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO SMITH. WE HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH FIRST PART (THROUGH SENTENCE THAT U.S. IS LOOKING FOR EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO AVOID BLOODSHED AND FIND WAY TO PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT). IN FACT, IF SECRETARY WERE PREPARED TO MAKE STATEMENTS PROPOSED UP THIS POINT IN PARA, THEY WOULD BE VIEWED HERE

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IN MOZAMBIQUE AS POSITIVE EVIDENCE THAT WE ARE BEGINNING BRING

PRESSURE ON SMITH TO ACCEDE TO MAJORITY RULE.

3. BALANCE OF PROPOSED STATEMENT FOR SMITH, HOWEVER, SHOULD BE LOOKED AT CAREFULLY. WE AGREE THAT IF WAR IS PROLONGED, PROSPECTS FOR WHITES WOULD BE GLOOMY. HOWEVER, FOR SECRETARY PUBLICLY TO HIGHLIGHT RACIAL CONSEQUENCES OF STRUGGLE, NO MATTER HOW VALID, MAY BE INTERPRETED BY PRESIDENT MACHEL AND GPRM AS SUBTLE WAY OF DISPARAGING CURRENT LIBERATION STRUGGLE. IN MEETING WITH SENATOR PERCY YESTERDAY (BEING REPORTED SEPTEL), MACHEL WENT TO GREAT LENGTHS TO MAKE POINT THAT LIBERATION STRUGGLE IS NOT RACIAL, BUT A "NATIONAL AND JUST" STRUGGLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. ACCORDING MACHEL, IF IT BECOMES RACIAL IT WILL BE BECAUSE IAN SMITH AND HIS SUPPORTERS (INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF RHODESIA) CHOOSE TO MAKE IT SO; NOT BECAUSE THE LIBERATION FIGHTERS ARE RACISTS.

4. IF SECRETARY AGREES TO REFTTEL SCENARIO, WE WOULD MAKE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. THAT IN ADDITION TO POINTS PROPOSED BY EMBASSY LUSAKA FOR SECRETARY'S STATEMENT AT LIVINGSTONE, HE SECRETARY SAY HE IS INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING AND CONTINUING A DIALOGUE THROUGH OUR AMBASSADORS WITH GOVERNMENTS MOZAMBIQUE AND BOTSWANA, ON WAYS USG CAN APPROPRIATELY WORK WITH THEM TO BRING ABOUT A QUICK AND PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA.

B. THAT IN THE SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT MACHEL, THE SECRETARY SAY THAT HE HAS BEEN ASKED BY PRESIDENT FORD TO ASSURE MACHEL THAT THE USG UNEQUIVOCALLY SUPPORTS MAJORITY RULE NOT ONLY FOR RHODESIA, BUT FOR NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA AS WELL, AND THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL THE USG ASSIST THE MINORITY RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT TO REMAIN IN POWER (REFERENCE TO PRESIDENT FORD IN THE MESSAGE WILL TAKE CARE OF THE POSSIBLE PROTOCOL PROBLEM OF THE SECRETARY COMMUNICATING WITH THE PRESIDENT RATHER THAN THE FOREIGN MINISTER).

C. THAT IN ADDITION THE SECRETARY A) REGRET HE WAS NOT ABLE TO MEET WITH MACHEL ON THIS TRIP; B) EXPRESS HIS ADMIRATION  
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FOR THE SACRIFICES MOZAMBIQUE HAS ACCEPTED TN BEHALF OF THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE-A STRUGGLE WHICH IS IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL MANKIND; C) REAFFIRM USG WILLINGNESS TO HELP MOZAMBIQUE BEAR THE COST OF THIS ACTION; AND D) STATE THAT HE AND THE PRESIDENT INTEND TO MAKE ANOTHER EFFORT TO REPEAL THE BYRD AMENDMENT.

5. AMBASSADOR WOULD BE QUITE HAPPY TO ROUGH IT SHOULD THE

SECRETARY WISH TO FOLLOW UP ON EMBASSY LUSAKA'S PROPOSAL.  
DE PREE

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